

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 15, 2016  
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 2016  
AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 1, 2015  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 2015  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## **ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1014**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Thurmond**  
(Coauthor: Senator Liu)

February 26, 2015

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An act to add Article 10 (commencing with Section 33430) to Chapter 3 of Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of, and to repeal Section 33434 of, the Education Code, relating to education finance.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1014, as amended, Thurmond. Education finance: Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund: Learning Communities for School Success Program.

Existing law, the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, enacted by Proposition 47, as approved by the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election, among other things, established the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, which is funded by savings that accrue to the state from the implementation of the act. The act provides that, among other purposes, 25% of the funds shall be disbursed to the State Department of Education

to administer a grant program to public agencies aimed at improving outcomes for public school pupils by reducing truancy and supporting pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school or are victims of crime.

This bill would establish the Learning Communities for School Success Program for the purpose of implementing that grant program, subject to an appropriation to the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund in the annual Budget Act or another measure for the purposes of the bill. The bill would specify the administrative duties and responsibilities of the department with respect to the program, including administering grants and coordinating assistance to local educational agencies, as defined. The bill would set forth criteria to guide the department in awarding grants under the ~~program~~ program, and would specify the purposes for which grant funds may be used. The bill would require the department to submit a final evaluation of the program to the Legislature on or before January 31, 2020.

These provisions would become operative only if SB 527 of the 2015–16 Regular Session is chaptered and becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, approved as
- 4 Proposition 47 by the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide
- 5 general election (the act), made significant changes to the state's
- 6 criminal justice system by reducing the penalties for certain
- 7 nonviolent, nonserious drug and property crimes. The act requires
- 8 the state savings realized from these criminal justice changes to
- 9 be deposited in the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund and
- 10 spent on prevention and support services with the intent of reducing
- 11 crime, including truancy and dropout prevention.
- 12 (b) The act requires 25 percent of the moneys deposited in the
- 13 Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund to be allocated to the State
- 14 Department of Education for administration of a grant program to
- 15 reduce truancy and support pupils who are at risk of dropping out
- 16 of school or who are victims of crime.

1 (c) In accordance with the act, the funding provided to K–12  
2 education should be used to help build the capacity of local  
3 educational agencies to identify and implement evidence-based,  
4 nonpunitive programs and practices to keep our most vulnerable  
5 pupils in school, consistent with each local educational agency’s  
6 local control and accountability plan, including, but not limited  
7 to, its goals for pupil engagement and school climate.

8 (d) California needs to increase the knowledge base concerning  
9 which strategies are most effective for improving pupil success  
10 and eliminating the school-to-prison ~~pipeline~~. *pipeline, including,*  
11 *but not necessarily limited to, providing resources to local*  
12 *educational agencies to establish community schools and address*  
13 *pupil attendance problems in kindergarten and grades 1 to 3,*  
14 *inclusive.* One manner in which this can be accomplished is for  
15 the local educational agencies participating in the K–12 education  
16 grant program pursuant to the act to report and evaluate outcomes  
17 using multiple measures, while engaging in a broader community  
18 of practice that disseminates promising and proven strategies to  
19 local educational agencies statewide.

20 SEC. 2. Article 10 (commencing with Section 33430) is added  
21 to Chapter 3 of Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education  
22 Code, to read:

23  
24 Article 10. The Learning Communities for School Success  
25 Program  
26

27 33430. The Learning Communities for School Success Program  
28 is hereby established for the purpose of implementing, pursuant  
29 to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 7599.2 of the  
30 Government Code, the K–12 education portion of the Safe  
31 Neighborhoods and Schools Act, as approved as Proposition 47  
32 by the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election.  
33 Through this program, the department shall administer grants and  
34 coordinate assistance to local educational agencies to support the  
35 local educational agencies in identifying and implementing  
36 evidence-based, nonpunitive programs and practices that are  
37 aligned with the goals for pupils contained in each of the local  
38 educational agency’s local control and accountability plan pursuant  
39 to Section 47606.5, 52060, or 52066, as applicable.

1 33431. (a) A local educational agency that chooses to apply  
2 for funding pursuant to this article shall submit an application to  
3 the department to receive a grant, in a format and by a date  
4 determined by the department. An application submitted to the  
5 department by a local educational agency shall include, at a  
6 minimum, all of the following:

7 (1) Information about the pupil and school needs within the  
8 local educational agency.

9 (2) The activities the local educational agency will undertake  
10 with the grant funding.

11 (3) How the activities specified in paragraph (2) support the  
12 local educational agency's goals for pupils contained in its local  
13 control and accountability plan.

14 (4) How the local educational agency will measure outcomes  
15 associated with the activities specified in subdivision (e) and  
16 metrics reported in the local educational agency's local control  
17 and accountability plan.

18 (b) An application shall be for three years of grant funding.  
19 Consistent with the provisions of this article, the department may  
20 establish requirements for grantees to meet at the end of the first  
21 and second years of funding in order to receive funding for the  
22 remaining grant period.

23 (c) The department shall determine eligibility for grants and the  
24 distribution of grant funding based on all of the following factors:

25 (1) Pupil and school needs the local educational agency will  
26 address with the grant funds.

27 (2) Number of pupils to be served with the grant funds.

28 (3) Number, size, and type of participating schools within the  
29 local educational agency.

30 (4) Any challenges the local educational agency experiences in  
31 building capacity for fulfilling the purposes of this article.

32 (5) The unique characteristics of small school districts, given  
33 their challenges with economies of scale and access to services in  
34 rural locations.

35 (d) (1) Before the initial application deadline, the department  
36 shall conduct targeted outreach to local educational agencies that  
37 are likely to be given priority pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section  
38 33432 and shall offer the local educational agencies technical  
39 assistance as they develop their grant applications.

1 (2) The department may provide technical assistance with  
2 application development to any local educational agency that  
3 requests assistance. This may include assistance from external  
4 entities the department may contract with as part of the training  
5 and technical assistance structure established pursuant to Section  
6 33433.

7 (e) The department shall issue application guidelines that  
8 include, at a minimum, information ~~on the outcome metrics the~~  
9 ~~department will use to evaluate the program. When determining~~  
10 ~~outcome metrics, the department shall consider metrics currently~~  
11 ~~being collected and used by existing federal, state, or local~~  
12 ~~programs. Consistent with the objective of the Safe Neighborhoods~~  
13 ~~and Schools Act to reduce crime, including truancy and dropout~~  
14 ~~prevention, the department shall consider using metrics for pupil~~  
15 ~~truancy and school dropout, among others. about the department's~~  
16 *plans for overall evaluation of the program considering the*  
17 *objectives identified in Section 33434. For purposes of facilitating*  
18 *program evaluation, the department, in consultation with the*  
19 *executive director of the state board, shall identify a set of*  
20 *measures and associated data sources that are deemed valid and*  
21 *reliable for measuring pupil and school outcomes and assessing*  
22 *the benefits of the program.*

23 (f) In meeting the requirements of this section, the department  
24 shall consult with stakeholders, including, but not limited to,  
25 representatives of local educational agencies, teachers and other  
26 school personnel, parents, advocacy organizations with experience  
27 working with target vulnerable populations, and parent- and  
28 youth-serving community-based organizations. It the intent of the  
29 Legislature that stakeholders provide input to the department on  
30 the design of the application and review process, including the  
31 size of the grant awards. The stakeholders shall not be involved  
32 in determining who will be awarded grants.

33 33432. (a) A local educational agency that receives a grant  
34 shall use the grant funds for planning, implementation, and  
35 evaluation of activities in support of evidence-based, nonpunitive  
36 programs and practices to keep the state's most vulnerable pupils  
37 ~~in school, consistent with school. These activities shall complement~~  
38 ~~or enhance the actions and services identified to meet the local~~  
39 ~~educational agency's goals for the pupil engagement and school~~  
40 ~~eliminate state priorities as identified in its local control and~~

1 accountability plan pursuant to Section 47606.5, 52060, or 52066,  
2 as applicable. These activities may include, but are not limited to,  
3 all of the following:

4 (1) Establishing a community school, as defined in Section  
5 33435.

6 (2) Implementing activities or programs to improve attendance  
7 and reduce chronic absenteeism, including, but not limited to, early  
8 warning systems or early intervention programs.

9 (3) Implementing restorative practices, restorative justice  
10 models, or other programs to improve retention rates, reduce  
11 suspensions and other school removals, and reduce the referral of  
12 pupils to law enforcement agencies.

13 (4) Implementing activities that advance social-emotional  
14 learning, positive behavior interventions and supports, culturally  
15 responsive practices, and trauma-informed strategies.

16 (5) Establishing partnerships with community-based  
17 organizations or other relevant entities to support the  
18 implementation of evidence-based, nonpunitive approaches to  
19 further the goals of the program.

20 (6) *Adding or increasing staff within a local educational agency*  
21 *whose primary purpose is to address ongoing chronic attendance*  
22 *problems, including, but not necessarily limited to, conducting*  
23 *outreach to families and children currently, or at risk of becoming,*  
24 *chronically truant.*

25 (b) In selecting grant recipients pursuant to this article, the  
26 department shall give priority to a local educational agency that  
27 meets any of the following criteria:

28 (1) (A) Has a high rate of chronic absenteeism, out-of-school  
29 suspension, or school dropout for the general pupil population or  
30 for a numerically significant pupil subgroup, as identified in a local  
31 control and accountability plan pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3)  
32 of subdivision (a) of Section 52052.

33 (B) For purposes of this paragraph, “high rate” means a rate  
34 that exceeds the state average.

35 (2) Is located in a community with a high crime rate.

36 (3) Has a significant representation of foster youth among its  
37 pupil enrollment.

38 (c) A local educational agency that receives a grant shall provide  
39 a local contribution of matching expenditures equal to at least 20  
40 percent of the total grant award. This local contribution can be

1 from cash expenditures or in-kind contributions. A local  
2 educational agency is encouraged to exceed the 20-percent match  
3 requirement to enable the local educational agency to sustain the  
4 activities or programs established under this article beyond the  
5 three-year grant period.

6 (d) A local educational agency that receives a grant shall use  
7 the grant funds to ~~supplement and not supplant the existing~~  
8 ~~resources the local educational agency currently allocates~~ *increase*  
9 *or improve services that the local educational agency currently*  
10 *provides* for purposes specified in this article.

11 (e) A local educational agency shall not use grant funds to pay  
12 for law enforcement activities, including personnel or equipment.

13 33433. (a) The department shall use the funding the Safe  
14 Neighborhoods and Schools Act authorizes for administrative costs  
15 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 7599.2 of the Government  
16 Code, which is no more than 5 percent of the annual funding the  
17 department receives from the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools  
18 Fund, for the administrative costs of implementing this article,  
19 including, but not limited to, administering grant awards,  
20 coordinating the training and technical assistance structure  
21 described in subdivision (b), and completing the evaluation  
22 pursuant to Section 33434.

23 (b) The department shall establish a structure to deliver training  
24 and technical assistance to grantees using regional workshops and  
25 technical assistance providers that have expertise on pupil  
26 engagement, school climate, truancy reduction, and supporting  
27 pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school or who are victims  
28 of crime. The department may contract with those providers to  
29 assist the grantees as well as to serve as a resource for other local  
30 educational agencies that may use their own funding sources to  
31 engage in this community of practice. *Technical assistance*  
32 *provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be consistent with the*  
33 *technical assistance provided to a local educational agency by the*  
34 *county superintendent of schools or the Superintendent, as*  
35 *appropriate, in the development of the local control and*  
36 *accountability plan.*

37 33434. (a) A local educational agency that receives grant  
38 funding pursuant to this article shall evaluate and report to the  
39 governing board of the school district, the county board of  
40 education, or its chartering authority, as applicable, and the

1 department the results of the activities it undertakes pursuant to  
2 this article. The department shall compile information from grantee  
3 reports as part of an overall evaluation of the grant program  
4 implementation. The department shall assess the benefits of  
5 participation in the program and identify the pupil and school  
6 outcomes associated with the strategies and programs implemented  
7 by grantees. The department shall submit an interim report of  
8 preliminary evaluation findings to the Legislature on or before  
9 January 31, 2019, and a final evaluation report to the Legislature  
10 on or before January 31, 2020.

11 (b) (1) A report to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)  
12 shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the  
13 Government Code.

14 (2) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this  
15 section is repealed on January 31, 2024.

16 33435. For purposes of this article, the following definitions  
17 apply:

18 (a) “Community school” means a public school that participates  
19 in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate  
20 educational, developmental, family, health, and other  
21 comprehensive services through community-based organizations  
22 and public and private partnerships with one or more community  
23 partners for the delivery of community services that may be  
24 provided at a schoolsite to pupils, families, and community  
25 members.

26 (b) “Local educational agency” means a school district, county  
27 office of education, or charter school.

28 33436. This article shall not become operative unless funds  
29 are appropriated in the annual Budget Act or another statute to the  
30 Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund in accordance with the  
31 Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act for the purposes specified  
32 in this article.

33 SEC. 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall become operative  
34 only if Senate Bill No. 527 of the 2015–16 Regular Session is  
35 chaptered and becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017.